PRELUDE 21

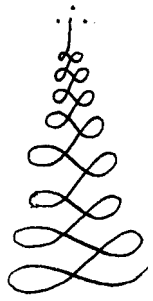
Edward Mc Guire

2002

SOLO VIOLIN

commissioned by the Friends of the Whithorn Trust

for the St. Ninian Festival 2002



premiered by Hector Scott at the St. Ninian Festival, Whithorn, on September 8th, 2002, in The Church, Isle of Whithorn

SCORE HANDWRITTEN BY COMPOSER

commissioned by the Friends of the Whithorn Trust

for the St. Ninian Festival 2002

NINIAN'S CHANT — PRELUDE 21

A note by the composer, Edward McGuire

Very few hints exist of the music of Ninian's time — my piece is an imaginary exploration of what his meditative themes may have been. That is the starting point, from which the soloist soars and embellishes, often with flavours of Scottish traditional style. The twists and turns in the melody return us to a much earlier period when the culture of the Roman Empire, and the Coptic Church (with its links to the ancient world) had a distant influence. Reading of Roman inscriptions and recent excavations in the Whithorn area itself has been an important inspiration for the piece.

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Edward McGuire has successfully written for the violin ever since he won the competition to find a test piece for the 1978 Carl Flesch International Violin Competition, right up to his recent violin concerto for Clio Gould and the RSNO.

In 1976 he started a long term project to write an idiomatic piece for every instrument. 'Ninian's Chant' is number 21 in the series.

PRELUDE 21

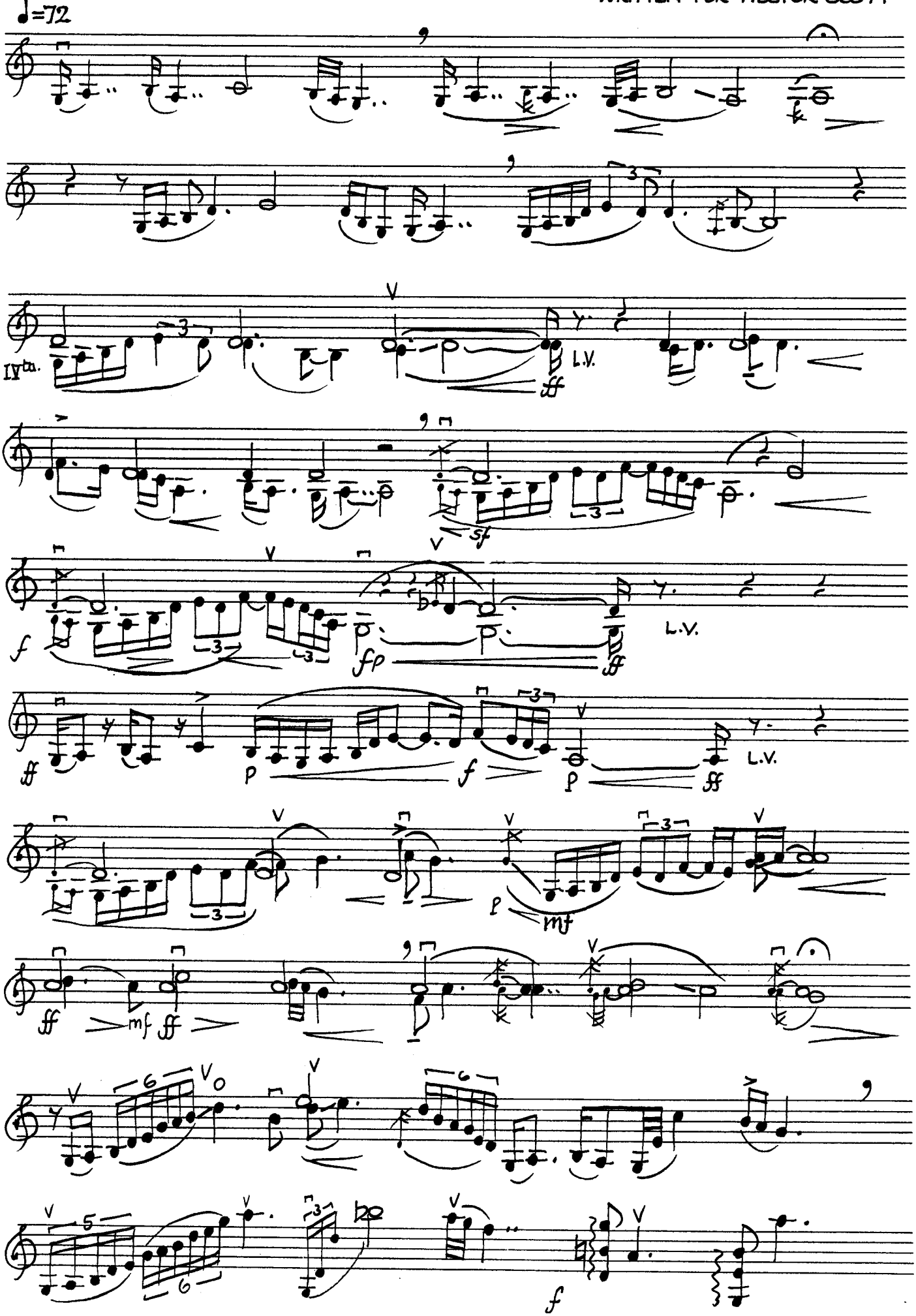
VIOLIN

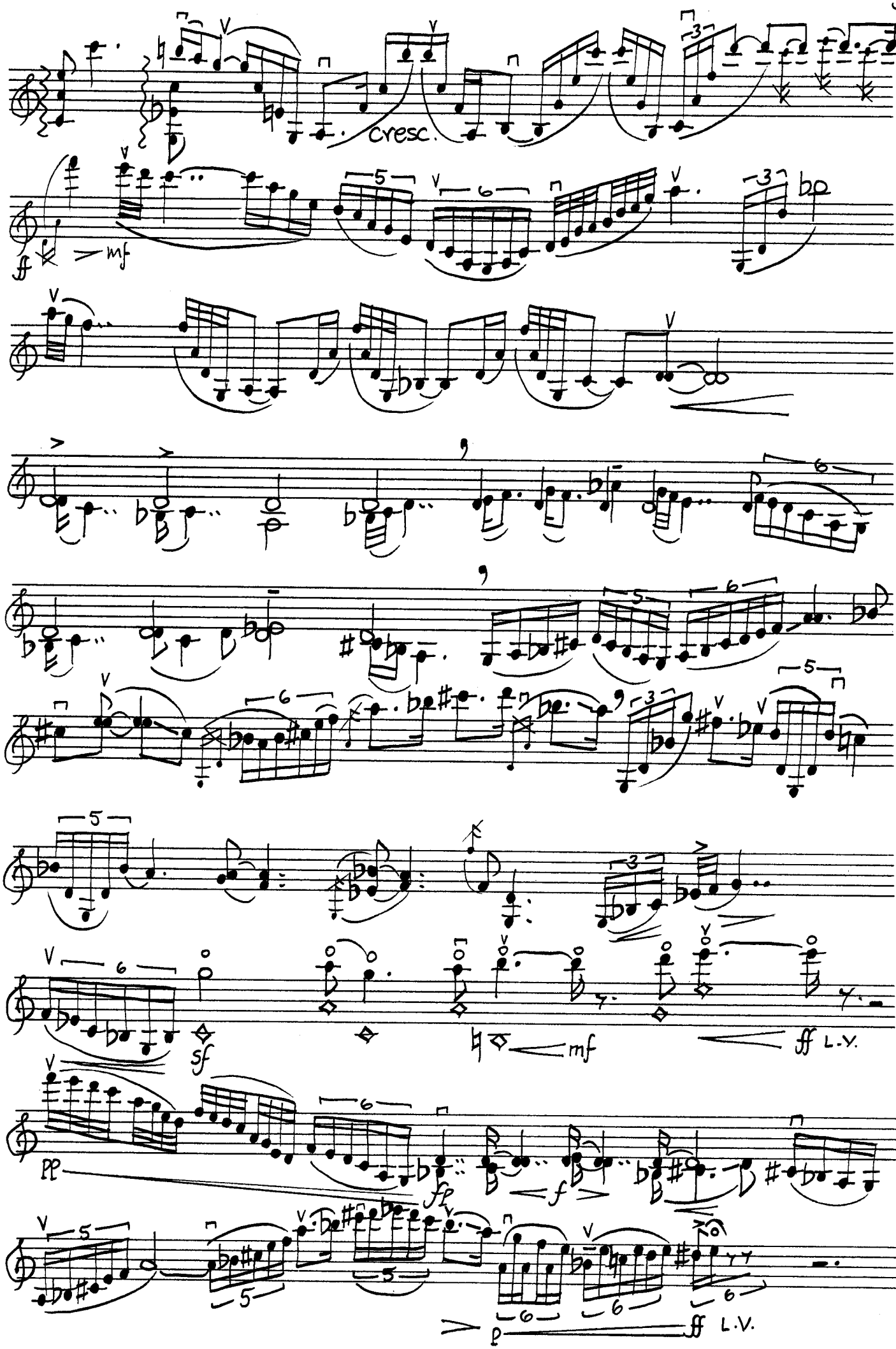
Edward McGuire 2002

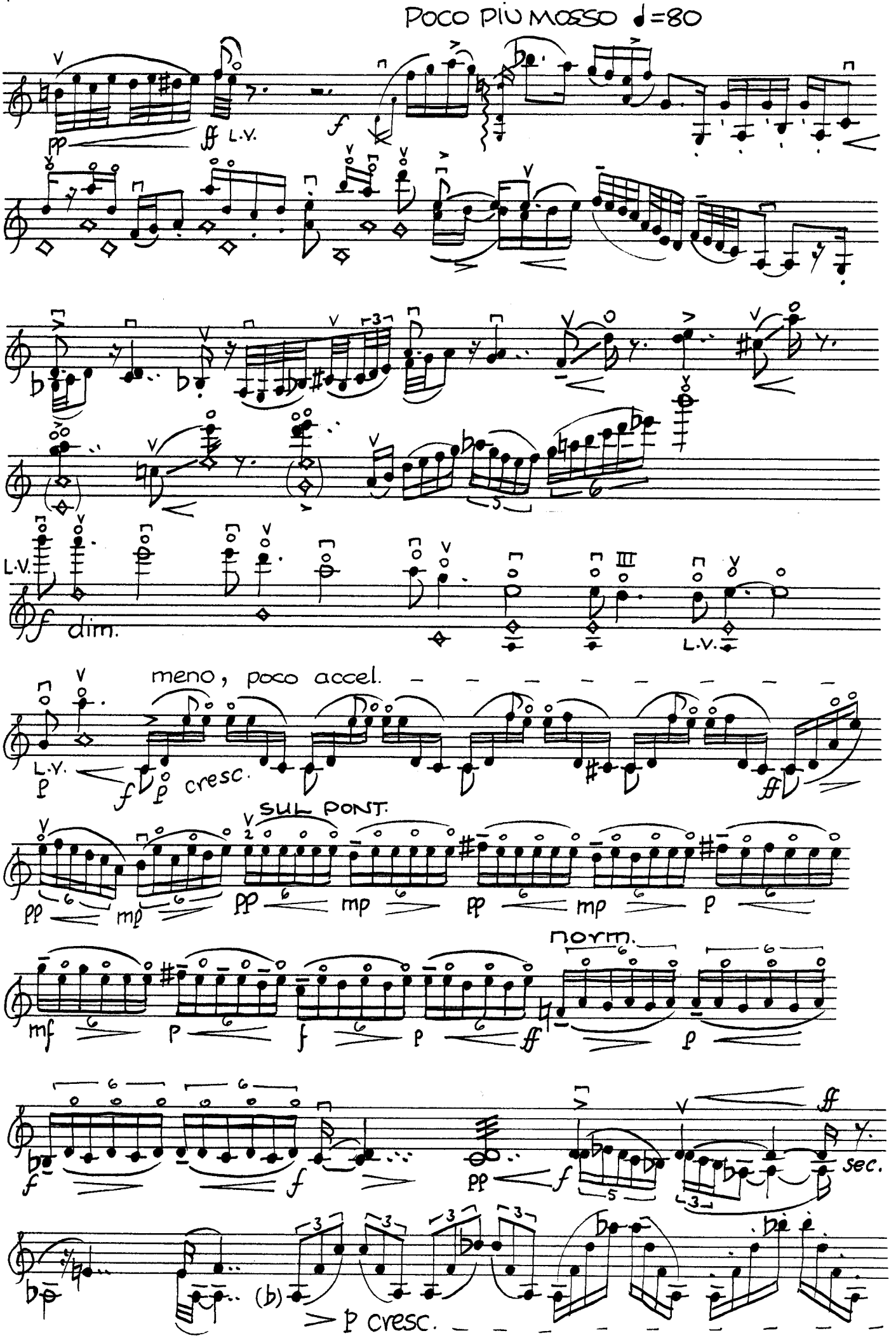
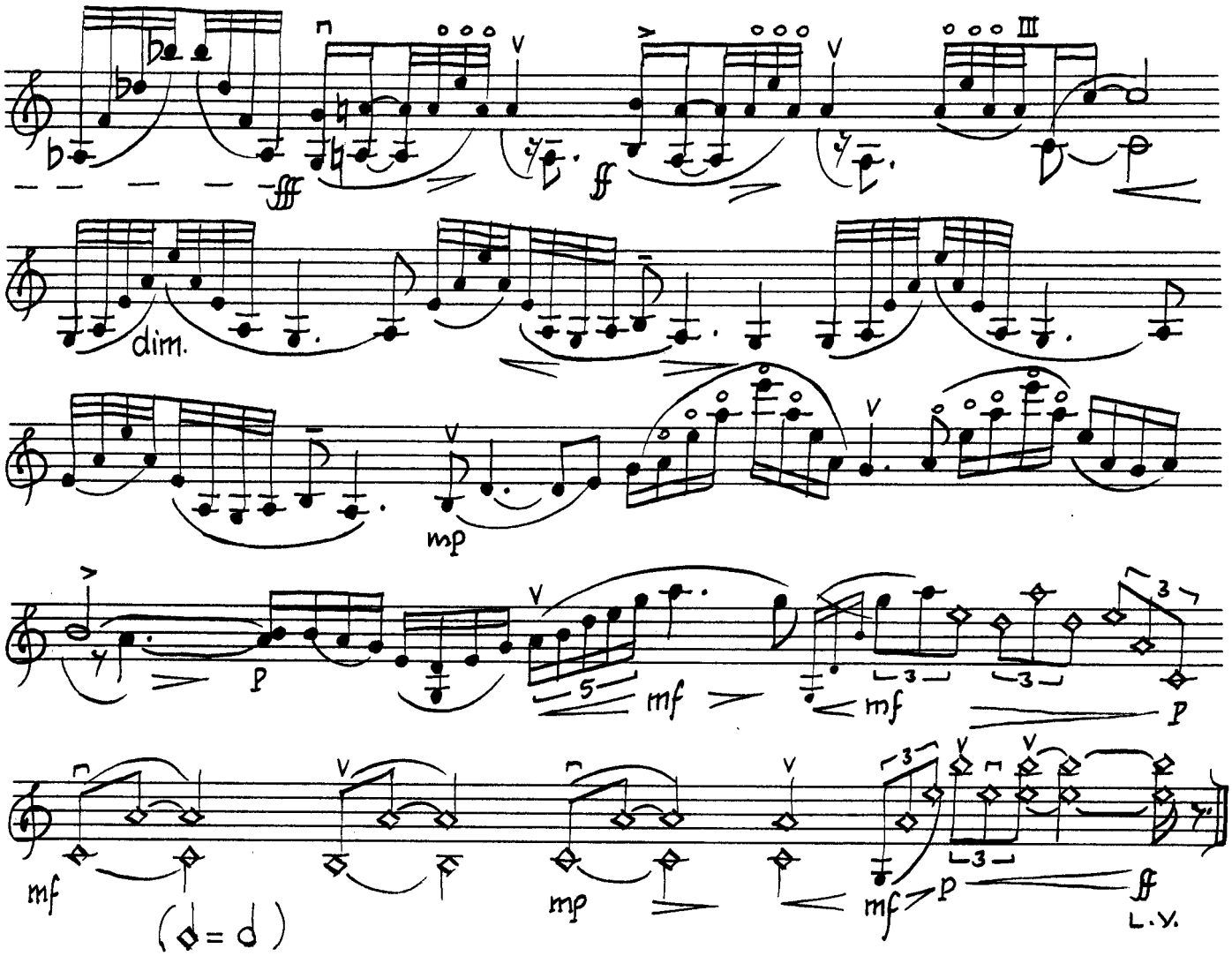
"NINIAN'S CHANT"

WRITTEN FOR HECTOR SCOTT

♩=72




cresc.
ff
mf
sf
mf
ff L.V.
pp
fp
f
p
ff L.V.


POCO PIÙ MOSSO ♩=80
pp
ff L.V.
f
L.V.
f dim.
L.V.
meno, poco accel.
L.V.
p
f
p cresc.
ff
SUL PONT.
pp
mp
pp
mp
p
norm.
mf
p
f
p
ff
p
f
f
pp
f
ff
sec.
p
(b)
p cresc.

A TEMPO 1